

**linsang**

**linsang** /'lɪnsæŋ/, n. a catlike, viverrine carnivore with retractile claws and a long tail, of the genus *Prionodon* (or *Linsang*) of the East Indies, or *Poina* of Africa. [Malay]

**linseed** /'lɪnsɪd/, n. the seed of flax. [ME *linsed*, OE *linsēd*, from *lin* flax + *sēd* seed]

**linseed cake** /'-keɪk/, n. crushed linseed, from which the oil has been extracted, used as cattle food.

**linseed oil** /'-ɔɪl/, n. a drying oil obtained by pressing linseed, used in making paints, printing inks, linoleum, etc.

**lint** /lɪnt/, n. 1. a soft material for dressing wounds, etc., procured by scraping or otherwise treating linen cloth. 2. bits of thread or fluff. [ME *lyn(e)t* flax, ? OE *linwyrta*, from *lin* flax + *wyrta* WORT?] -**linty**, adj.

**lint cotton** /'-kɒtn/, n. a fibrous coat of thickened convoluted hairs borne by the seeds of cotton plants, which makes up the staple of cotton fibre after ginning.

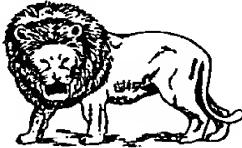
**lintel** /'lɪntl/, n. a horizontal supporting member above an opening such as a window or a door. Also, *lintol*. [ME *lyntel*, from OF *lintel*, *linter*, from VL *limitāle*, diminutive of L *limitē* boundary, LIMIT]

**lintier** /'lɪntɪə/, n. 1. (pl.) short cotton fibres which stick to seeds after a first ginning. 2. a machine which removes lint from cloth.

**lintwhite** /'lɪntwaɪt/, n. Chiefly Scot. →linnet. [ME (northern d.) *lynkwylte*, replacing OE *linetwige*, equivalent to *lin(e)* flax + -twige plucker]

**liny** /'lɪni/, adj. -nier, -niest. 1. full of or marked with lines. 2. linelike. Also, *liney*.

**lion** /'laɪən/, n. 1. a large, greyish tan cat, *Panthera leo*, native to Africa and southern Asia, the male of which usu. has a mane.



lion

2. this animal as the national emblem of Britain. 3. (pl. cap.) the British representative Rugby Union team. 4. a man of great strength, courage, etc. 5. a person of note or celebrity who is much sought after. 6. (cap.) Astron. Leo. 7. the lion's share, the largest portion of anything. [ME, from OF, from L *leo*, from Gk *léōn*. Cf. LEO]

**lioncel** /'laɪənsɛl/, n. Her. a small or young lion.

**lioness** /'laɪənɛs/, n. a female lion.

**lion-hearted** /'laɪən-hærtɪd/, adj. courageous; brave.

**lionise** /'laɪənaɪz/, v.t., -nised, -nising. to treat (a person) as a celebrity. Also, *lionize*. —*lionisation* /laɪənaɪ'zeɪʃn/, n.

**lip** /lɪp/, n., adj., v., *lipped*, *lippling*. -n. 1. either of the two fleshy parts or folds forming the margins of the mouth and performing an important function in speech. 2. (pl.) these parts as organs of speech. 3. *Colloq.* impudent talk. 4. a liplike part or structure. 5. Bot. either of the two parts (upper and lower) into which the corolla or calyx of certain plants (esp. the mint family) is divided. 6. Zool. a. →labium. b. the outer or the inner margin of the aperture of a gastropod's shell. 7. Music. the position and arrangement of lips and tongue in playing a wind instrument. 8. any edge or rim. 9. a projecting edge, as of a jug. 10. the crest of a wave which is starting to break, but is not yet curling. 11. the edge of an opening or cavity, as of a canyon or wound. 12. Carp. the blade at the end of an auger which cuts the chip after it has been circumscribed by the spur. 13. bite one's lip, a. to show vexation. b. to stifle one's feelings, esp. anger or irritability. 14. button the lip, to be silent. 15. curl one's lip, to show scorn. 16. give (someone) lip, to talk, esp. to a superior, in a cheeky or insolent manner. 17. hang on the lips of, to listen very attentively or eagerly. 18. keep a stiff upper lip, to face misfortune bravely, esp. without outward show of perturbation. 19. smack one's lips, to show enjoyment or anticipation of something enjoyable, esp. food. -adj. 20. of or pertaining to the lips or a lip. 21. pertaining to, characterised by, or made with the lips. -v.t. 22. to touch with the lips. 23. *Golf.* to hit the ball over the rim of (the hole). 24. to utter, esp. softly. 25. Obs. to kiss. 26. to affix lippling to the edge of (a door, board, etc.). -v.i. 27. to use the lips in playing a musical wind instrument. [ME *lip(pe)*, OE *lippa*, c. D *lip*, G *Lippe*; akin to L *labium*, *labrum*]

**lip-**, variant of **lipo-**, before vowels, as in *lipectomy*.

**lipase** /'lɪpeɪz/, 'laɪ-, n. one of the enzymes produced by the liver, pancreas, and other organs of the digestive system which convert oils or fats into fatty acids and glycerol. [LIP- + ASE]

**lipectomy** /lɪ'pektəmi, laɪ-, n., pl. -mies. an operation for removal of superficial fat, usu. a pendulous abdominal apron of fat, in obese persons.

**lipid** /'lɪpid, 'laɪ-, n. any of a group of organic compounds which make up the fats and other esters which have analogous solubility properties. They have a greasy feeling and are insoluble in water, but soluble in alcohols, ethers, and other fat solvents. Also, *lipide* /'lɪpɪd, 'laɪ-, [LIP- + -ID]

**lipo-**, in chemistry a word element meaning 'fat', as in *lipochrome*. Also, *lip-* [Gk, combining form of *lipos* fat]

**lipochrome** /'lɪpəkrōm/, n. any natural pigment containing a lipid, esp. the pigments of butterfat.

**lipoclastic** /lɪpə'klæstɪk/, adj. capable of splitting fats, esp. applied to enzymes which are capable of hydrolysing fats; lipolytic.

**lipogenesis** /lɪpə'gēnəsɪs/, n. the process of fatty acid synthesis.

**lipoid** /'lɪpɔɪd, 'laɪpɔɪd/, adj. 1. fatty; resembling fat. -n. 2. one of a group of fats or fatlike substances such as lecithins, waxes, etc. [LIP- + -OID] -**lipoldal** /lɪ'pɔɪdl/, adj.

**lipolysis** /'lɪpələsɪs/, n. the resolution of fats into fatty acids and glycerol, as by lipase. [LIPO- + -LYSIS] -**lipolytic** /lɪpə'lɪtɪk/, adj.

**lipoma** /'lɪpəmə/, n., pl. -mata /-mətə/, -mas. a tumour made up of fat tissue; a fatty tumour. [LIP- + -OMA]

**lipophilic** /lɪpə'fɪlɪk/, adj. having an affinity for lipids.

**lipoprotein** /lɪpə'prəʊtɪn/, n. any of a group of complex compounds of lipids and proteins.

**lippled** /'lɪpt/, adj. 1. having lips or a lip. 2. Bot. →labiate.

**lipple** /'lɪpi/, n. *Colloq.* →*lipstick*. Also, *lippy*. [abbrev. of LIPISTICK + -IE]

**lippling** /'lɪpɪŋ/, n. a strip, usu. wooden, fixed to the edge of a door, board etc.

**lippy** /'lɪpi/, n., pl. -pies. *Colloq.* →*lipple*.

**lip-read** /'lɪp-rɪd/, v., -read /-red/, -reading. -v.t. 1. to understand spoken words by watching the movement of a speaker's lips. -v.i. 2. to read lips.

**lip-reading** /'lɪp-rɪdɪŋ/, n. the reading or understanding, as by a deaf person, of the movements of another's lips when forming words. -*lip-reader*, n.

**lip-service** /'lɪp-sɜːvɪs/, n. service with words only; insincere profession of devotion or goodwill.

**lipstick** /'lɪpstɪk/, n. a stick or elongated piece of cosmetic preparation for colouring the lips. Also, *lipple*.

**lip-**, 1. liquid. 2. liquor.

**liquefy** /lɪkweɪfɪ/, v.t., -quated, -quating. 1. to heat (a metal, etc.) sufficiently to melt the more fusible portion and so separate a metal from impurities or other metals. 2. to separate by such a fusion (oft. fol. by *out*). [L *liquātus*, pp., made liquid, melted] -**liquefaction** /lɪk'wefɪ'shən/, n.

**liquefacient** /lɪk'wefɪ'sənt/, n. that which liquefies or promotes liquefaction.

**liquefaction** /lɪk'wefɪk'shən/, n. the process of liquefying or making liquid.

**liquefied petroleum gas**, n. light hydrocarbons as butane and propanes, liquefied under pressure. Also, *bottled gas*. Abbrev. L.P.G.

**liquefy** /'lɪkwaɪfɪ/, v., -fied, -fying. -v.t. 1. to make liquid. -v.i. 2. to become liquid. Also, *liquefy*. [late ME, from L *liquefacere* make liquid] -**liquefiable**, adj. -**liquefier**, n.

**liqueficient** /lɪk'wefɪ'sənt/, adj. 1. becoming liquid; melting. 2. tending towards a liquid state. [L *liquescens*, pp.] -**liquefence**, *liqueficiency*, n.

**liqueur** /laɪ'kjʊə, la'kjʊə/, n. any of a class of alcoholic liquors, usu. strong, sweet, and highly flavoured, as chartreuse, curacao, etc.; a cordial. [F. See LIQUOR]

**liqueur brandy** /'-brændi/, n. a brandy of age and mellow flavour, reminiscent of a liqueur.

**liquid** /'lɪkwid/, adj. 1. composed of molecules which move freely among themselves but do not tend to separate like those of gases; neither gaseous nor solid. 2. of or pertaining

**liquid**

**liquid**

to liquids: *liq* fluid. 4. clearing smoothly with or being into cash: *liq*: cash. -n. 9. [ME, from L *liquidus* /-c- transparent li

**liquidambar** /-Liquidambar/ star-shaped le yellowish bal

See storax (d- AMBER)

**liquid assets** bank's assets with the Re: Treasury bil company.

**liquidate** /'lɪkwidɪte/ pay (a debt, to order; damages); killing or ot away with liquidation.

**liquidation** / assets and of a busir securities o profits or p

**liquidator** / winding up liquid crystal optical prop characteris

**liquid crystal** tronic calc which disp fields are e

**liquid fire** employed

**liquid glass**

**liquidise** / liquefy. A

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**liquidity** /a of having cash.

**liquidity** holding earning a

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# Chamber's Science and Technology Dictionary

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## Lissajous' curves

### lipoprotein

**lipoprotein** (*Biol.*). Complex of protein and lipid in varying proportions, classified according to their increasing density into chylomicrons, very low density lipoproteins (*VLDL*), low density lipoproteins (*LDL*) and high density lipoproteins (*HDL*). They transport lipids in the plasma between various organs in the body, particularly the gut, liver and adipose tissues.

**lipoproteins** (*Med.*). Soluble complex of fat and protein which serve to transport fat in the blood. Classified on density. Abnormal distribution associated with coronary artery disease.

**liposome** (*Biol. Immun.*). Spherical shell formed when mixtures of phospholipids with or without cholesterol are dispersed in aqueous solutions. Liposomes are made up of one or several concentric phospholipid bilayers within which other molecules can be incorporated. They simulate many permeability properties of membranes and are used for the administration of certain drugs.

**lipotropic** (*Med.*). Having an effect on fat metabolism by accelerating fat removal or decreasing fat deposition, e.g. of liver fat.

**Lippmann process** (*Image Tech.*). Early method of colour photography using a transparent silver halide emulsion backed with mercury. When viewed at an angle the reflected image appears in natural colours.

**LIPS** (*Comp.*). Abbrev. for *Logical Inferences Per Second*. A measure of speed of a processor. Cf. MIPS, FLOPS.

**lip seal** (*Eng.*). An oil-retaining shaft seal, often used adjacent to a bearing, in which an annular rubber sealing element having an aperture slightly smaller than the shaft diameter is deformed into the shape of a sealing lip, the sealing pressure being due partly to the deformation stress and partly to the force supplied by an additional garter spring.

**lip sync** (*Image Tech.*). Precise synchronization in simultaneous picture and sound recording, in contrast to wild shooting.

**lipuria** (*Med.*). The presence of fat in the urine.

**liquefaction** (*Eng.*). Partial melting of an alloy due to heterogeneity of composition.

**liquefaction** (*Geol.*). The change in packing of the grains of a water-filled sediment, turning it into a fluid mass which can then flow.

**liquefaction of gases** (*Phys.*). To liquefy a gas, it must be cooled below its critical temperature and, in some cases, compressed. For the so-called 'permanent' gases, oxygen, nitrogen, hydrogen, and helium, having very low critical temperatures, the problem of liquefaction becomes one of obtaining low temperatures. This is done mainly by allowing the compressed gas to expand through a nozzle, cooling occurring by the Joule-Thomson effect.

**liquefaction temperature** (*Phys.*). The temperature at which a gas changes state to liquid. Physically the same as the boiling point.

**liquefied petroleum gases** (*Eng.*). These fall within three main categories, viz. propane, butane and pentanes. The two sources are natural gas wells and oil refinery separation. Abbrev. *LPG*.

**liquid** (*Genrl.*). A state of matter between a solid and a gas, in which the shape of a given mass depends on the containing vessel, the volume being independent. A liquid is practically incompressible.

**liquid compass** (*Ships*). A magnetic compass fitted in a bowl containing a suitable liquid. The weight of the card on the pivot is reduced and oscillations of the card are damped out.

**liquid counter** (*Phys.*). A counter for measuring the radioactivity of a liquid, usually designed to measure  $\beta$ , as well as  $\gamma$ -rays.

**liquid crystal display** (*Electronics*). A digital or alphanumeric display consisting of two sheets of glass separated by a sealed-in liquid crystal material. Both sheets have a thin transparent coating of conducting material, with the viewing side etched into character-forming segments with leads going to the edges of the display. Voltages applied between the front and back coatings disrupt the orderly arrangement of the molecules sufficiently to darken the

liquid and form visible characters. Power consumption is negligible, and edge-lighting can be provided for use in darkness.

**liquid crystals** (*Chem.*). Certain pure liquids which are turbid and, like crystals, anisotropic over a definite range of temperature above their freezing-points. See liquid crystal display.

**liquid-drop model** (*Phys.*). A model of the atomic nucleus using the analogy of a liquid drop in which the various concepts of surface tension, heat of evaporation, etc. are employed. A semi-empirical mass formula can be developed from the model which describes the masses of many stable and unstable nuclei in terms of a few parameters.

**liquid-flow counter** (*Phys.*). One for continuous monitoring of radioactivity in flowing liquids.

**liquid helium II** (*Chem.*). See under helium.

**liquid honing** (*Eng.*). Honing by a jet of liquid containing abrasives.

**liquid-liquid extraction** (*Chem. Eng.*). Process, both batch and continuous, whereby two nonmixing liquids are brought together to transfer soluble substance from one to the other for useful recovery of these soluble substances.

**liquid-metal reactor** (*Nuc. Eng.*). (1) Normally used of a reactor designed for liquid-metal (usually sodium) cooling. (2) Occasionally used to indicate a liquid-metal fuelled reactor.

**liquid oxygen** (*Chem.*). See oxygen.

**liquid paraffin** (*Chem.*). A liquid form of *petroleum jelly*, colourless and tasteless, used as a mild laxative. A mixture of alkanes with more than twelve carbon atoms to the molecule.

**liquid-penetrant inspection** (*Eng.*). See fluorescent-penetrant inspection.

**liquid-phase sintering** (*Eng.*). Sintering in which a small proportion of the material becomes liquid. It may or may not speed up the sintering process by solution transfer of the phases forming the matrix.

**liquid-quenched fuse** (*Elec. Eng.*). A fuse in which a liquid is used for quenching the arc. See semi-immersed-, immersed-.

**liquid resistance** (*Elec. Eng.*). A resistance consisting of a liquid of low conductivity, the current being let to and from the liquid by means of suitable electrodes.

**liquid rheostat** (*Elec. Eng.*). One in which a liquid column is used as the resistive element, the terminals being attached to suitable metal plates, one of which is usually movable, thus providing a continuous variation. Only used where current control need not be too precise.

**liquid starter** (*Elec. Eng.*). A liquid rheostat arranged to operate as a motor starter.

**liquidus** (*Chem.*). A line in a constitutional diagram indicating the temperatures at which solidification of one phase or constituent begins or melting is completed. See solidus and solidification range.

**liquor amni (Med.)**. The clear fluid in the amniotic cavity, in which the embryo is suspended.

**liquor ratio** (*Textiles*). Used in dyeing or finishing to express the ratio of the weight of liquor used to the weight of material being treated.

**L-iron** (*Eng.*). A structural member of wrought-iron or rolled steel, having an L-shaped cross-section. Also called angle iron.

**lisie** (*Textiles*). Long-staple, highly-twisted folded cotton hosiery yarn, gassed and often mercerized to produce a lustrous effect.

**LISP** (*Comp.*). A general purpose programming language in which the expressions are represented as lists. *LISI Processing*.

**Lissajous' curves, figures** (*Maths. Phys.*). Plane curves formed by the composition of two sinusoidal waveforms in perpendicular directions. The parametric cartesian equations are:  $x = a \sin(\omega t + \alpha)$ ,  $y = b \sin(\Omega t + \beta)$ . The curves embrace a great variety of forms. If the frequencies are commensurable they consist, in general, of a plurality of loops determined by the ratio of the

### lissencephalous

frequencies, and this property is extensively exploited to compare the frequencies of two sinusoidal voltages applying them to the plates of a cathode-ray tube. **lissencephalous** (*Zool.*). Having smooth cerebellar spheres.

**list** (*Comp.*). (1) A linearly ordered data structure, stack, queue, array, linked list. (2) A data type, atoms or smaller lists. See LISP. (3) To print or list.

**list** (*Ships*). An angle of transverse inclination from unsymmetrical distribution of internal weight.

**listel** (*Arch.*). See facette.

**listening key** (*Telecomm.*). The lever key which the operator throws, to put her head-set on to a contact and speak to a subscriber.

**listeriosis** (*Vet.*). *Listeriosis*. A bacterial infection of animals and birds by *Listeria monocytogenes* (*listeria monocytogenes*). The infection occurs in cattle as 'circling disease' and more rarely in pigs, and febrile meningo-encephalitis. In poultry, as well as in young animals, the disease occurs as a coccidiosis.

**listing** (*Build.*). (1) A narrow edge of a board operation of removing the sappy edge of a board listing (*Comp.*). The sequences of program statements in printed form or on a screen.

**listing** (*Textiles*). (1) In a dyed fabric, a variation between the selvedges and the centre. (2) selvedge lateral (*Print.*). Casual error of composition, substituting for another, worn letters, tautions, turned letters, etc.

**litharge** (*Build. Chem.*). Lead (II) oxide, used in mixing as a drier; used also in the rubber and accumulator industries.

**litharge cement** (*Chem.*). See glycerine litharge.

**lithia emerald** (*Min.*). Misnomer for *hiddenite*.

**lithia mica** (*Min.*). See lepidolite.

**lithiasis** (*Med.*). The formation of calculi in the condition in which an excess of uric acid and urate is excreted in the urine; the gouty diathesis.

**lithic arenite** (*Geol.*). A sediment of sand-size grains many of which are rock fragments rather than mineral grains.

**lithification** (*Geol.*). Processes which convert an old sediment into a sedimentary rock.

**lithophillite** (*Min.*). Orthorhombic phosphate and manganese, forming with triphyllite a co-variant series.

**lithite** (*Zool.*). See statholite.

**lithium** (*Chem.*). An element symbol Li, r.a.m. no. 3, mp 186°C, bp 1360°C, rel.d. 0.585. It is a dense solid, chemically resembling sodium but is used in alloys and in the production of titanium as a basis for lubricant grease with high resistance to moisture and extremes of temperature; a component of high-energy fuels. Its salts are medicinally as an anti-depressant.

**lithium 12-hydroxy stearate** (*Chem.*). A lithium salt widely used in high-performance greases as a thickening agent. Helps to confer high water and good low-temperature performance.

**lithium aluminium hydride** (*Chem.*). Lithium aluminium,  $\text{LiAlH}_4$ . Important reducing agent used in organic chemistry because of its effect on 'difficult' reductions, e.g. the reduction of carboxylic acids ( $\text{COOH}$ ) to primary alcohol groups ( $\text{CH}_2\text{OH}$ ).

**lithium carbonate** (*Med.*). Salts of lithium, tranquilizer, and prophylactically and therapeutic mania.

**lithium drifted silicon detector** (*Phys.*). A sensitive solid-state detector for ionizing radiation. Lithium is thermally diffused into almost pure silicon crystal. Used for low energy X-ray spectroscopy. The crystal is kept at liquid

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